



STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

CITY OF JERSEY CITY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



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Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Jersey City Leads the State in Enrolling Residents in Healthcare Coverage with 10 Percent of New Jersey Affordable Care Act Enrollees Due to Aggressive Fulop Administration Outreach

22,000 Jersey City Residents Have Signed Up for Healthcare Coverage Since ACA Began; Federal Officials Hail Mayor Fulop’s Leadership in Expanding Healthcare Coverage for Residents

JERSEY CITY – Jersey City is **leading the state in providing access to healthcare** through the Affordable Care Act, with **10 percent of the New Jersey’s ACA enrollees being Jersey City residents**, due to the Fulop Administration’s aggressive outreach.

To date, 222,640 New Jerseyans now have healthcare coverage, which includes approximately **22,000 Jersey City residents**.

“Our outreach has been aggressive and we’ve worked to reach every community in the City, in the places they work, live and recreate,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “We’ve partnered with community leaders and local non-profits, hired bilingual staff, and really made a strong push to enroll as many residents as possible with healthcare coverage as this benefits not only the individual but the entire community.”

At the kickoff of the Affordable Care Act in October of 2013, approximately 55,000 Jersey City residents, nearly 20 percent, were without healthcare coverage. Through the City’s **aggressive outreach with our network of certified application counselors**, Jersey City has **assisted 22,000 residents** in receiving healthcare coverage, which is more than any other city in New Jersey.

“The numbers make it clear - there is a real need for quality, affordable healthcare across the state and the Affordable Care Act, and strong local leadership like Mayor Fulop’s is making coverage possible for hundreds of thousands in New Jersey,” said **U.S. Health and Human Services Regional Director Jackie Cornell-Bechelli**.

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Outreach in Jersey City has included partnering on a mobile navigator program through a **\$400,000 federal grant** that hired four bilingual counselors to visit businesses, community groups, and local non-profits to enroll residents using tablets. Only six federal grants were allocated in New Jersey, and Jersey City is the only municipality with a bilingual, mobile model.

Due to Mayor Fulop's aggressive outreach plan, Jersey City has been recognized as a national leader in registering residents for the Affordable Care Act, with four senior Obama Administration officials visiting Jersey City since the program began in 2013.

In January, Katherine Archuleta, Director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and the highest-ranking Latina in the Obama Administration, attended an event with Mayor Fulop and leaders of the Latino community to further outreach within that population. Last February, former U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius spoke at City Hall, using Jersey City as a model for local governments to encourage more residents to register for healthcare coverage through the Affordable Care Act.

In January 2014, U.S. Labor Secretary Thomas Perez also visited Jersey City to meet with Mayor Fulop, residents and community leaders regarding the Affordable Care Act. And in December of 2013, shortly after the Affordable Care Act launched, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx visited the Jersey City Medical Center with Mayor Fulop for an enrollment event and to receive community feedback on the exchange.

Since Open Enrollment began on Nov. 15, 7.75 million Americans selected a plan or were automatically re-enrolled through the HealthCare.gov platform, including 222,640 in New Jersey. Yesterday, Feb. 15th, was the deadline and end of Open Enrollment for the 2015 Health Insurance Marketplaces.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////